

Kenneth WHALING et al.
10/664,915
December 18, 2003

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is to perfect Applicants' claim of the benefit of the filing date of a parent application and conform to 37 C.F.R. §1.78.

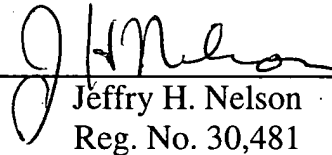
The parent application has been allowed by the USPTO.

All claims are in good condition for allowance. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is requested to telephone applicants' attorney. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


Jeffrey H. Nelson
Reg. No. 30,481

JHN:glf
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100